STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
South Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106
(203) 566-3005
HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM
for Buildings and Structures

IDENTIFICATION
1. BUILDING NAME: Common: "Wines-Liquors" Historic: Capitol Theater
2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: COUNTY: Middlesex
3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 354 Main Street
4. OWNER(S): Capitol Theater Realty Corporation PUBLIC X PRIVATE
5. USE: Present: Liquor Store Historic: Movie theater; originally stage theater
6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: x yes no
Interior accessible: yes, explain x no

DESCRIPTION
7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Neo-Classical Revival DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: c. 1925
8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):
- clapboard
- wood shingle
- board & batten
- aluminum siding
- other:
- asbestos siding
- asphalt siding
- stucco
- concrete: type: 
- brick
- fieldstone
- cobblestone
- cut stone: type: sandstone
- other:
- load bearing masonry
- structural iron or steel
- other:

9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:
- wood frame: post and beam balloon
- other:

10. ROOF: type:
- gable
- flat
- gambrel
- shed
- mansard
- hip
- round
- monitor
- sawtooth
- other:
- material:
- wood shingle
- roll asphalt
- asphalt shingle: built up
- other:
- tin
- tile
- slate
- other:

11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 22'x76' (64'x142' rear)
12. CONDITION: Structural: excellent x good fair 
Exterior: excellent x good fair deteriorated
13. INTEGRITY: Location: x on original site moved, when:
Alterations: no x yes, explain: Large marquee added; lobby adapted for commercial

14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES: use
- barn
- shed
- carriage house
- shop
- garage
- garden
- other landscape features or buildings:

15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:
- open land
- woodland
- residential
- commercial
- industrial
- rural
- scattered buildings visible from site
- high building density

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS: This small but elegant theater building is located on the east side of Main Street in the heart of the central business district. It is situated directly south of the large, Renaissance Revival, Pythian Building. A small commercial building is attached to its south wall.
OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior):

ARCHITECT: ______________ Builder: ______________

HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: This structure was built in the mid 1920s by Alessandro Saraceno. The second story classical facade, located above a small entrance, is intact. Arched windows with keystone are set off by attached columns supporting pediment and a large, false cornice. The theater portion, with a seating capacity of 1,100, is decorated. It is currently vacant.

In 1974 the entrance and lobby of the building was adapted for use as a liquor store and is currently used for that purpose.

This structure, with its ornate facade, reflects the opulent tradition of early twentieth century theaters.

PHOTOGRAPH
photographer: Elizabeth Loomis
date: 6/78 view: west
negative on file: Roll 26, #23-23A

COMPiled BY: Elizabeth Loomis
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19. SOURCES: Middletown Land Records; Middletown City Directories

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:
   - none known
   - highways
   - renewal
   - vandalism
   - deterioration
   - zoning
   - developers
   - other

   explanation: _____________________________
Capitol Theater
354 Main Street, Middletown, CT 06457